



93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

Introduced 2/6/2004, by Denny Jacobs

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

515 ILCS 5/20-5

from Ch. 56, par. 20-5

Amends the Fish and Aquatic Life Code. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning fishing licenses.

LRB093 21165 RAS 47238 b

1 AN ACT concerning fishing.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Fish and Aquatic Life Code is amended by
5 changing Section 20-5 as follows:

6 (515 ILCS 5/20-5) (from Ch. 56, par. 20-5)

7 Sec. 20-5. Necessity of license; exemptions.

8 (a) Any person taking or attempting to take any fish,
9 including minnows for commercial purposes, turtles, mussels,
10 crayfish, or frogs by any means whatever in any waters or lands
11 wholly or in part within the jurisdiction of the State of
12 Illinois, including that part of Lake Michigan under the
13 jurisdiction of this State, shall first obtain a license to do
14 so, and shall do so only during the respective periods of the
15 year when it shall be lawful as provided in this Code.
16 Individuals under 16, blind or disabled residents, or
17 individuals fishing at fee fishing areas licensed by the
18 Department, however, may fish with sport fishing devices
19 without being required to have a license. For the purpose of
20 this Section an individual is blind or disabled if that
21 individual has a Class 2 disability as defined in Section 4A of
22 the Illinois Identification Card Act. For purposes of this
23 Section an Illinois Disabled Person Identification Card issued
24 under the Illinois Identification Card Act indicating that the
25 individual named on the card has a Class 2 disability shall be
26 adequate documentation of a disability.

27 (b) A courtesy non-resident sport fishing license or stamp
28 may be issued at the discretion of the Director, without fee,
29 to (i) any individual officially employed in the wildlife and
30 fish or conservation department of another state or of the
31 United States who is within the State to assist or consult or
32 cooperate with the Director or (ii) the officials of other

1 states, the United States, foreign countries, or officers or
2 representatives of conservation organizations or publications
3 while in the State as guests of the Governor or Director.

4 (c) The Director may issue special fishing permits without
5 cost to groups of hospital patients or handicapped individuals
6 for use on specified dates in connection with supervised
7 fishing for therapy.

8 (d) Veterans who, according to the determination of the
9 Veterans' Administration as certified by the Department of
10 Veterans' Affairs, are at least 10% disabled with
11 service-related disabilities or in receipt of total disability
12 pensions may fish with sport fishing devices during those
13 periods of the year it is lawful to do so without being
14 required to have a license, on the condition that their
15 respective disabilities do not prevent them from fishing in a
16 manner which is safe to themselves and others.

17 (e) Each year the Director may designate a period, not to
18 exceed 4 days in duration, when sport fishermen may fish waters
19 wholly or in part within the jurisdiction of the State,
20 including that part of Lake Michigan under the jurisdiction of
21 the State, and not be required to obtain the license or stamp
22 required by subsection (a) of this Section, Section 20-10 or
23 subsection (a) of Section 20-55. The term of any such period
24 shall be established by administrative rule. This subsection
25 shall not apply to commercial fishing.

26 (f) The Director may issue special fishing permits without
27 cost for a group event, restricted to specific dates and
28 locations if it is determined by the Department that the event
29 is beneficial in promoting sport fishing in Illinois.

30 (Source: P.A. 89-66, eff. 1-1-96; 90-743, eff. 1-1-99.)